



LYNCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY



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NEWSLETTER

August/September 2001



The Most Popular Books **@ your library™**

The **TOP 10** circulating children's fiction books are a wonderful mix of old and new, classic and contemporary. From *Little Women* (1868) to the Harry Potter books, they represent many thousands of hours spent in the pleasurable company of books. About 35,000 items per month are checked out of the library, and fully 50% of these are children's and young adult materials.

These figures are calculated since 1990, and are not completely accurate, as copies may have been withdrawn and the use figures become unavailable. Here's the list:

<u>Title/Author</u>	<u>No. of Circulations</u>
<i>Ramona the Pest</i> /Beverly Cleary	326
<i>Little House on the Prairie</i> Laura Ingalls Wilder	314
<i>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone</i> / J.K. Rowling	295
<i>Ramona Quimby, Age 8</i> Beverly Cleary	276
<i>Little House in the Big Woods</i> Laura Ingalls Wilder	257
<i>The Boxcar Children</i> Gertrude Chandler Warner	248
<i>Little Women</i> /Louisa May Alcott	238
<i>Samantha Saves the Day</i> Valerie Tripp	234
<i>Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire</i> J.K. Rowling	233
<i>Number the Stars</i> /Lois Lowry	226

Coming next time: Children's picture books.



Tax Season **@ your library™**

In spite of the ever-increasing popularity of electronic filing and rapid refunds, many thousands of individual taxpayers still do their taxes the old fashioned way, with pencil and paper, and that translates into big business for the public library. During the 2000 tax season, citizens picked up 4600 Federal instruction booklets and 12,500 of the most popular forms at the Main Library. Another 7200 Virginia instruction booklets and 13,000 forms were also provided. As the library is one of the few places in town where one can obtain them, library Circulation Department staff were kept busy keeping the racks filled with these most popular forms. Deborah Beasley of the Circulation staff coordinated the logistics of ordering the thousands of state and federal forms from the IRS. Additionally, the Adult Information Desk staff provided personal assistance to numerous others in finding the more unusual federal and many out-of-state forms; the Internet was an invaluable tool. The library also provided space for the AARP volunteer tax advisory program two days a week at both the main and branch libraries.

Staff report that a number of first-time visitors, who came primarily for tax forms, also applied for library cards.

Lynn L. Dodge, Director



***Girl Scouting: For Every
Girl, Everywhere!
@ your library™***

The Girl Scouts' Lynchburg Service Unit donated \$500.00 worth of new Girl Scout materials to the library this summer. The books and tapes were purchased by a donation from **Woodall-Tharp Funeral Homes**. Field Director, Jennifer Mann, wanted the materials to be made available to as many young girls as possible and decided that the library was the obvious choice for reaching every girl who is interested in scouting. All levels of scouting are included from Daisy through Senior. The collection consists of cookbooks, activity books, songbooks, and game books, as well as books about nature and science, contemporary issues, government, careers and philanthropy. Leader guides and handbooks round out the collection.

The books will be on special display during August in the Youth Services Department. Please come by and check out these wonderful materials. For more information about Girl Scouts, call Jennifer Mann at 239-0165. For more information about Youth Services at the library call Lorry Risinger at 847-1717.



***Born to Read gets
a big lift!
@ your library™***

The 82nd Airborne Division Association raised \$280.00 during their Spring Fling fund raiser to donate to the **Born to Read** program. John Williams presented the check to Youth Services in honor of the late Donna Hladik Smith who served as a nurse in Vietnam, and her late father who served

as President of the 82nd Airborne Division Association.

Born to Read is a program that presents a new book to every newborn at Virginia Baptist Hospital. The goal of the program is to put a book into the hands of every Lynchburg area baby and give him or her a chance to become an enthusiastic reader. The program began August 1, 2000 and has delivered more than 2000 books to date.

For more information about **Born to Read**, please call Lorry Risinger at 847-1717.



***Spend Some Time this
Summer
@ your library™***

Circulation numbers for the first week of summer were up at the Main Library. They indicate 6,600 items per day going across the Circulation Desk. Our norm is about 6,000 items a day, with 3,000 checked out, and another 3,000 returned. A 10% increase is pretty good, especially when there were 1,200 more check-outs than check-ins!

Summer is always our busiest time of the year, fueled greatly by the Summer Reading Program, which is drawing dozens of children daily. The Read A Million campaign is drawing readers, and the newly implemented nonresident fee of \$7.00 for 3 months has already brought in 19 new borrowers as of the end of June.

The Main and Downtown Branch Libraries checked out a total of 415,164 items in the fiscal year July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001.





Teen Volunteers **@ your library™**

Teenagers have a lot of unstructured time on their hands during the summer. Many teens watch TV, sleep long hours, play computer games, and generally hang out with friends. Some teens choose to use summer vacation more constructively by volunteering for one of the many organizations in Lynchburg that utilize teenage volunteers. Thirty-seven teens are volunteering this summer at Lynchburg Public Library, most helping the Youth Services Department with the Summer Reading Program.

Chris Copeland is volunteering two mornings a week at the library this summer doing inventory and cleaning videos. Chris decided to volunteer this summer because he wanted to get some real work experience, and he did not want to sit around the house doing nothing all summer.

Chris is a 14 year-old sophomore at E. C. Glass High School. He loves computers and cars and hopes to have a career working with computers. He plans to initially attend community college after high school. Chris likes to spend a lot of time on his computer at home, sometimes to the annoyance of his mother!

His favorite web-site is one about cars. Chris is looking forward to getting his learner's permit and driver's license. He feels as though he has been waiting forever to drive. Chris has been an outstanding volunteer this summer and a very willing worker. He and all the teen volunteers at the library are truly a pleasure to work with and definitely provide much needed assistance to the staff.

Lynchburg Public Library commends the parents of the teenagers and their schools for encouraging them to volunteer. The teens have gained valuable work skills, and have contributed time without monetary compensation to a

community agency that, we hope, will serve them for a lifetime. Volunteering gives teens a sense of pride, builds character and responsibility, and allows them to contribute as vital members of the community.

Chris Verilla, Volunteer Coordinator

What does it mean when the computer says a book is "Coming Soon?" **@ your library™**



On Order. Just Received. Coming Soon. You have seen these terms in the library catalog, but what do they mean? Here's a short explanation of what the terms mean, and how our Technical Services department works. Our Technical Services staff consists of five members who are responsible for getting the new materials onto the shelves, and for keeping the materials in good repair. First the materials need to be ordered. A book whose status is ***On Order*** has been ordered but not yet received, while one whose status is ***Just Received*** has come into the library. Bibliographic records are then downloaded from the Online Computer Library Center in Ohio, so that there will be a record in our library catalog for each item that we own. Each item is also barcoded. Our cataloger customizes each record to our catalog and gives each item a call number. At this point, the items have the status of ***Coming Soon***. Then the items are labeled, books are covered, and videos and audios are put in cases. **HOLDS** may be placed on books which have the ***Just Received*** or ***Coming Soon*** status.

Another responsibility of the technical services department is to check in the magazines and newspapers and make sure that we get every issue we are supposed to get. You may never have seen any of our technical services people, but without them you would not be able to check out your books, videos, audiotapes or magazines.



Bequest Benefits Youth @ your library™

A \$5,000 bequest from the late George W. Martin, Jr. will be used to enhance two youth collections. Dr. Martin, who passed away earlier this year, was a professor of French and Italian at Fairleigh Dickinson University, and also studied music. He specifically requested that the funds be used to support the youth language and music collections. In 1981, he received national acclaim for his translation of Calvino's *Italian Fairy Tales*. He had retired to Lynchburg and was a regular library user. This generous donation will enable staff to enhance the breadth and depth of the foreign language and music collections over the next several years. The library is grateful for his generosity.



Library Hours

Main – Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat. – 9:30 AM-5:30 PM
Tues., Thurs. – 9:30 AM-9:00 PM

Downtown Branch – Mon.– Fri. 9:30 AM-5:30 PM

Closed Monday, September 3 for Labor Day.

Quarterly Non-Resident Card



@ your library™

In order to offer more options to our patrons, who live outside of the Lynchburg City limits, we are offering a quarterly non-resident library card. The cost is \$7.00 and the card is good for 95 days. The card may be used by all members of a household and is renewable each quarter for an additional \$7.00. The library still offers the regular non-resident card, which costs \$25.00 and is renewable on a yearly basis. We hope that the new card will appeal especially to families who participate in our Summer Reading Program.



Main Library

2315 Memorial Ave.
Lynchburg, VA 24501

Circulation, Renewals,

Returns, Library Cards 847-1565

Reference and Information 847-1566

Youth Services 847-1717

Administration and

Technical Services 847-1577

Volunteer Program 847-1577

Downtown Branch and Law Library

900 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504
847-1768